

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to require their stations to air a misleading anti-John Kerry documentary mere days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of the current trend of media consolidation.

Sinclair's stations use the public airwaves free of charge, and they are obligated by law to serve the public interest (and rightly so). But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for an informed electorate. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, we should be seeing real people from our own communities, presenting substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.